Special Edition

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Separation Depends On Michigan Supreme Court Hearing

On July 23, 2002 the Michigan Court of Appeals unanimously reversed a Wayne County Circuit Court ruling preventing separation of the Detroit Housing Commission from the City of Detroit. The decision agrees with the position of the Housing Commission on all substantive legal issues relative to its efforts to achieve legal and administrative separation from the governmental structure of the City of Detroit. With separation, the DHC will function as a "public body corporate" under Michigan law and will have the ability to manage all critical components of its public housing mission and programs while not having to depend on city operation systems such as personnel, financial management, management information systems and procurement. Opponents of separation have appealed this decision to the Michigan Supreme Court. The Court may or may not elect to hear the case.

Separating the Detroit Housing Commission from the City's governmental structure has been a strategy sought by HUD, the City of Detroit, and the Detroit Housing Commission since all three parties entered into a Partnership Agreement on December 15, 1995.

National Search Underway For New Executive Director

Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick has appointed Taylor C. Segue III as the Interim Executive Director of the Detroit Housing Commission following the dismissal of John Nelson. Mr. Segue will lead a national search for a new Executive Director. He is a distinguished attorney currently with the firm Howard and Howard. President George W. Bush appointed him last year to the board of directors of Fannie Mae (Federal National Mortgage Association). Fannie Mae is a national organization which provides mortgage assistance to low-, moderate- and middle-income families. Mr. Segue also serves as the Chairman of the board of directors of Orchard Children's Services, Inc. He is former head partner of Segue, Fair, Adams and Pope law firm and a board member of the Michigan Education Trust and a former board member of the city's Historic District Commission.